

(Handwritten mark)
Please amend Claim 12 as follows:

12. (Three times amended) An aluminum alloy consisting essentially of copper, magnesium and lithium, the lithium content being in an amount of from 0.01 to 0.99 wt %, effective to avoid formation of an Al_3Li phase, and the copper and magnesium weight percent values falling within a closed area on a graph with wt % copper on the x-axis and wt % magnesium on the y-axis, said closed area being bounded by generally straight lines joining the following points:

POINT 1 = 3 Cu, 1.0 Mg
POINT 2 = 4.28 Cu, 1.0 Mg
POINT 3 = 3.7 Cu, 2 Mg
POINT 4 = 3 Cu, 2 Mg
and back to POINT 1.

Please amend Claim 26 as follows:

26. (Amended) The aluminum alloy of Claim 1, wherein said lithium content comprises a maximum of 0.8 wt % and where the lithium is added in an amount effective to avoid formation of an Al_3Li phase.

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Please amend Claim 27 as follows:

27. (Amended) The aluminum alloy of Claim 12, wherein said lithium content comprises a maximum of 0.8 wt % and where interaction of lithium ions in the solid solution gives rise to formation of clusters of atoms of solute providing fatigue resistant alloys.

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Amendment. The attached page is captioned.

Upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 1-8, 12, 16-22, 26 and 27 will be pending in the application.

By the present Amendment, Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to set forth that the amount of Li used is effective to avoid an Al_3Li phase. Basis for the amended claim language is provided in the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 5 to 8. Claims 26 and 27 have been amended to more clearly define the behavior of the Li added in providing clusters of atoms of solute. Basis for the amended language is provided in the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 9-21.